

Chapter DOD 29

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT GRANT PROGRAM

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DOD 29.01 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish the procedures for the administration of the economic empowerment grant program.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.

DOD 29.02 Eligibility. Those cities, villages, towns, and counties that are eligible under s. DOD 6.02 are eligible to apply for a grant under this chapter.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.

DOD 29.03 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) "Business development project" means the development of plans, the development of programs, the preparation of feasibility studies, the development or implementation of business training workshops or technical assistance and the analysis of existing or potential business projects that enhance the applicant's ability to encourage business creation or expansion which creates employment for persons with low income.

(2) "Department" means the department of development.

(3) "Development zone" means a development zone designated under s. 560.71, Stats.

(4) "Economic empowerment" means activities designed to build a community's capacity to enable low-income residents to achieve economic self-sufficiency and to improve their overall living conditions.

(5) "Empowerment zone" means an empowerment zone designated under 26 USC 1391.

(6) "Enterprise community" means an enterprise community designated under 26 USC 1391.

(7) "Job training project" means a project that will enhance the planning and development of local job training programs designed to assist low-income individuals attain economic self-sufficiency.

(8) "Public facilities project" means the planning of a public facilities economic development project, eligible for funding under subch. II of ch. DOD 6.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.

DOD 29.04 Grants. (1) An economic empowerment grant may be for up to \$12,000.

(2) An applicant may submit one application which may be for either a business development project, job training project, or public facilities project.

(3) The proceeds of a grant made under this chapter shall be used for a business development project, a job training project, or a public facilities project that improves the effectiveness of a project that has been or that in the judgement of the department is eligible to be funded under subch. II of ch. DOD 6.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.

DOD 29.05 Application procedures. An application for a grant under this chapter shall be submitted by September 30, 1994, be in such form as the department may require and include all of the following:

- (1) The name of the applicant.
- (2) A name, address and telephone number for a contact person.
- (3) A resolution adopted by the governing body of the applicant authorizing submission of the application.
- (4) A description of the proposed business development, public facilities or job training project.
- (5) A budget and workplan for the project.
- (6) An explanation of the need for the proposed project.
- (7) An explanation of how the grant will help the applicant improve the effectiveness of federal community development block grant-assisted activities.
- (8) If the applicant contains all or part of a development zone or empowerment zone, or if the applicant is an enterprise community, indication whether the proposed project would be located within the applicable zone or enterprise community and a description of how the proposed project complements the development zone plan, empowerment zone plan, or enterprise community plan.
- (9) A description of the participation by public and private organizations in the project.
- (10) A description of the participation by low-income residents in the project.
- (11) Evidence of support of community residents and organizations for the proposed project, including financial support.
- (12) A description of the results expected from implementation of the proposed project.

Note: Written instructions for economic empowerment grant applications may be obtained upon request from the Community Empowerment Specialist, Department of Development, Division of Community Development, P.O. Box 7970, Madison, WI 53707.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.

DOD 29.06 Department determination. The department shall hold one competition for grants under this chapter. The highest scoring applications in each category identified in s. DOD 29.04 (2) shall be funded. If after making awards to the highest scoring applications in each category, sufficient funding remains for awards in fewer than three categories, the remaining funds shall be awarded first to the next-highest scoring business development applicant, and next to the next-highest scoring public facilities applicant. Grant awards shall be made until all funds are

granted, except that an applicant must score at least 60 points out of a possible 100 in order to be funded. Scores shall be determined based upon the following:

(1) Up to 10 points for the demonstrated need of the applicant for the proposed project.

(2) Up to 10 points for the degree to which the grant will help the applicant improve the effectiveness of federal community development block grant-assisted activities.

(3) Ten points for the location of the proposed project in a development zone, an empowerment zone, or an enterprise community.

(4) Up to 10 points for the degree to which the proposed project complements the development zone plan, empowerment zone plan, or enterprise community plan.

(5) Up to 20 points for the level of participation in the proposed project by public and private organizations.

(6) Up to 15 points for the level of participation in the proposed project by low-income residents.

(7) Up to 15 points for commitments of local match, including financial support.

(8) Up to 10 points for the results expected from the implementation of the proposed project.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.

DOD 29.07 Contracts. Each successful applicant shall enter into a contract with the department for the purpose of implementing the proposed grant. The contract shall be signed by the secretary of the department and the chief elected official of the successful applicant, or by their authorized representatives. The department may void a contract and seek a return of any funds released under the contract for failure by the applicant to perform its obligations under the contract. Amendments to a contract may be adopted by the written consent of both parties.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.

DOD 29.08 Reporting. Each successful applicant shall provide the department quarterly financial and program reports and comply with the federal single audit requirement by a date specified in the contract. The financial and program reports and the audit become the property of the department and are open to public inspection.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.

DOD 29.09 Administration. The department shall solicit applications, review applications, make grant determinations, authorize payments, otherwise implement contractual obligations entailed in the grants made under the terms of this chapter, monitor project activities, and receive and review the financial reports and program reports submitted under s. DOD 29.08.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1994, No. 463, eff. 8-1-94.